Uniform Law Commission
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS

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MILITARY LAW ACTS

In recent years, the Uniform Law Commission (ULC) drafted a number of uniform acts addressing issues of importance to America's service members. Below is a description of these acts and links to webpages where more information can be found.

- **Model Veterans Treatment Court Act (and Rules):**

  Veterans treatment courts have been created in a number of judicial districts around the United States to ensure that veterans in the criminal justice system receive the treatment and support necessary to rehabilitate them into being productive members of society. Few states have legislation on veterans treatment courts, but many local judicial districts have effectively created these courts by rule or practice. The MVTCA provides guidelines and best practices for the establishment of veterans' courts while permitting substantial local discretion necessary to accommodate circumstances in different communities. *Further information on MVTCA can be found at the ULC's website here.*

- **Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act:**

  The Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act (UMOVA) was promulgated by the ULC in 2010. UMOVA simplifies the process of absentee voting in state elections for United States military members and civilians living overseas by making the process more uniform, convenient, secure and efficient. The act covers all military personnel or their dependents, as well as U.S. citizens residing outside the United States who are unable to vote in-person. This latter category includes a class of voters not covered by the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE Act). U.S. citizens born overseas who have reached voting age without having resided in the United States. UMOVA applies to all statewide and local elections, as well as to all federal elections, both primary and general (and also special and run-off elections). *Further information on UMOVA can be found at the ULC's website here.*

- **Uniform Deployed Parents Custody and Visitation Act:**

  The ULC promulgated the Uniform Deployed Parents Custody and Visitation Act (UDPCVA) in 2012. The increased deployment of service members has raised difficult child custody issues that profoundly affect both children's welfare and service members' ability to serve their country efficiently. UDPCVA addresses issues of child custody and visitation that arise when parents are deployed in military or other national service. The goal of UDPCVA is to facilitate expeditious and fair disposition of cases involving the custody rights of a member of the military. There is a need to ensure that parents who serve their country are not penalized for their service, while still giving adequate weight to the interests of the other parent, and most importantly, the best interest of the child. *Further information on UDPCVA can be found at the ULC's website here.*

The ULC is a nonprofit formed in 1892 to create nonpartisan state legislation. Over 350 volunteer commissioners—lawyers, judges, law professors, legislative staff, and others—work together to draft laws ranging from the Uniform Commercial Code to acts on property, trusts and estates, family law, criminal law and other areas where uniformity of state law is desirable.